

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1 - 6. (Cancelled).

7. (Currently Amended) A method for treating a patient suffering from bone destruction, the method comprising the step of inserting at the site of bone destruction a bone graft composite, wherein said bone graft composite replaces diseased bone at the site of bone destruction and comprises a bisphosphonate.

8. (Original) The method of claim 7 wherein the insertion step is preceded by surgical removal of the diseased bone.

9. (Cancelled).

10. (Currently Amended) The method of claim [9] 7 wherein said bisphosphonate is Pamidronate.

11. (New) The method of claim 7 wherein the bone graft composite further comprises a bone graft.

12. (New) The method of claim 7 wherein the bone graft composite further comprises a carrier material.

13. (New) The method of claim 7 wherein the bone destruction is mediated by osteoclasts.

14. (New) The method of claim 7 wherein the bone destruction occurs as a result of a disease selected from the group consisting of osteolytic bone diseases due to malignancy, Paget's disease, osteogenesis imperfecta, hypercalcemia caused by malignancy, and tumor metastases in bone.

15. (New) A method of inhibiting the activity or formation of osteoclasts at the site of insertion of a bone graft composite in a subject having bone destruction mediated by osteoclasts, comprising inserting the bone graft composite in the subject such that it replaces diseased bone at the site of bone destruction and wherein the bone graft composite comprises a bisphosphonate.

16. (New) The method according to claim 15 wherein the insertion step is preceded by surgical removal of the diseased bone.

17. (New) The method of claim 15 wherein said bisphosphonate is Pamidronate.

18. (New) The method of claim 15 wherein the bone graft composite further comprises a bone graft.

19. (New) The method of claim 15 wherein the bone graft composite further comprises a carrier material.